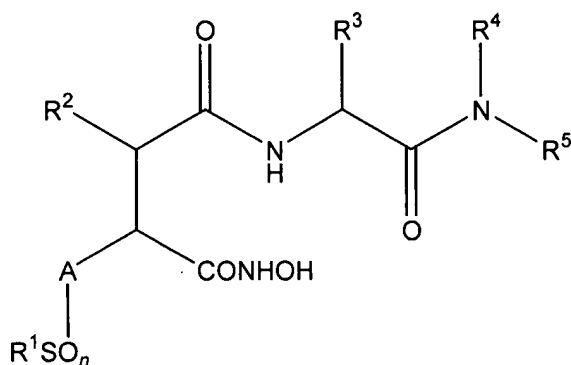


## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 43-66 and enter the following amendments to claims 1-42.

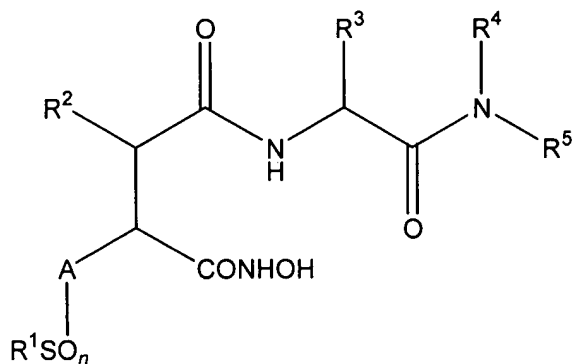
1. (currently amended) A method for treating retinal neovascularization in a mammal in need of such treatment, comprising topically administering to the eye a composition capable of delivering a therapeutically effective amount of a batimastat compound selected from the group consisting of: a compound of the formula



where R<sup>1</sup> represents thienyl, R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, phenyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>) alkyl, cycloalkyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl or cycloalkenyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl group, R<sup>3</sup> represents an amino acid side chain or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, benzyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy)benzyl or benzyloxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl) or benzyloxy benzyl group, R<sup>4</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl group, R<sup>5</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, n is an integer having the value 0, 1 or 2, and A represents a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> hydrocarbon chain, optionally substituted with one or more C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, phenyl or substituted phenyl groups, or a salt thereof; and a derivative of batimastat formed by methylation halogenation, acetylation, esterification and hydroxylation, to the retina, wherein the composition comprises a polymeric suspension agent and about 0.01 to about 3 percent, by weight, of ~~the~~ said batimastat compound.

2. (currently amended) The method of 1, wherein ~~the~~ said mammal is a human.

3. (currently amended) The method of 1, wherein ~~the~~ said batimastat compound is batimastat.
4. (currently amended) The method of 1, wherein ~~the~~ said polymeric suspension agent comprises a polymer.
5. (currently amended) The method of 1, wherein ~~the~~ said polymeric suspension agent comprises polycarbophil.
6. (currently amended) The method of 5, wherein ~~the~~ said polycarbophil is present at a concentration of about 0.5 to about 1.5 percent by weight.
7. (currently amended) A method for preventing retinal neovascularization in a mammal susceptible to developing retinal neovascularization, comprising topically administering to the eye a composition capable of delivering a therapeutically effective amount of a batimastat compound selected from the group consisting of: a compound of the formula



where R<sup>1</sup> represents thienyl, R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, phenyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>) alkyl, cycloalkyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl or cycloalkenyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl group, R<sup>3</sup> represents an amino acid side chain or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, benzyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy)benzyl or benzyloxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl) or benzyloxy benzyl group, R<sup>4</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl group, R<sup>5</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, n is an integer having the value 0, 1 or 2, and A represents a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> hydrocarbon chain, optionally substituted with one or more C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, phenyl or substituted phenyl groups, or a salt thereof; and a derivative of batimastat formed by methylation halogenation, acetylation, esterification and hydroxylation, to the retina, wherein the composition

comprises a polymeric suspension agent and about 0.01 to about 3 percent, by weight, of the said batimastat compound.

8. (currently amended) The method of 7, wherein ~~the~~ said mammal is a human.

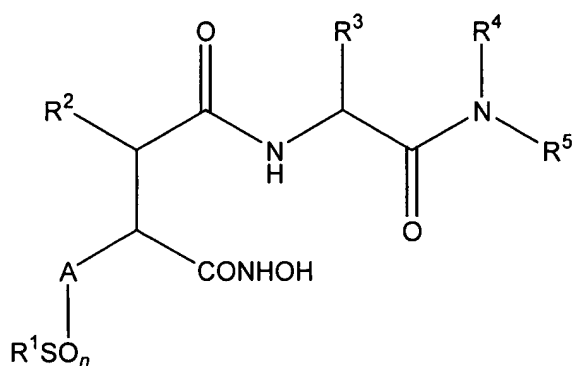
9. (currently amended) The method of 7, wherein ~~the~~ said batimastat compound is batimastat.

10. (currently amended) The method of 7, wherein ~~the~~ said polymeric suspension agent comprises a polymer.

11. (currently amended) The method of 7, wherein the said polymeric suspension agent comprises polycarbophil.

12. (currently amended) The method of 11, wherein ~~the~~ said polycarbophil is present at a concentration of about 0.5 to about 1.5 percent by weight.

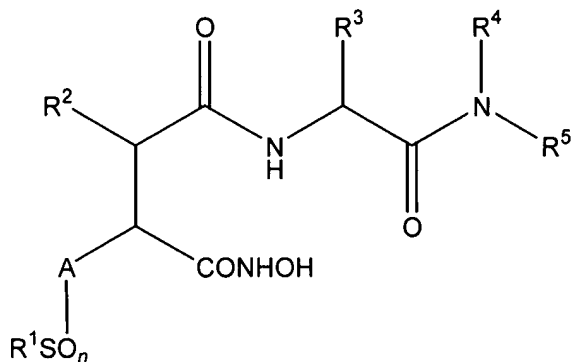
13 (currently amended) A method for treating retinal neovascularization in a mammal in need of such treatment, comprising topically administering to the eye a composition capable of delivering a therapeutically effective amount of a batimastat compound selected from the group consisting of: a compound of the formula



where R<sup>1</sup> represents thienyl, R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, phenyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>) alkyl, cycloalkyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl or cycloalkenyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl group, R<sup>3</sup> represents an amino acid side chain or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, benzyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy)benzyl or benzyloxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl) or benzyloxy benzyl group, R<sup>4</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl group, R<sup>5</sup> represents

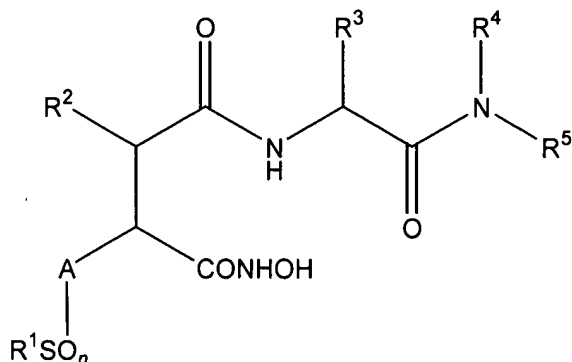
a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, n is an integer having the value 0, 1 or 2, and A represents a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> hydrocarbon chain, optionally substituted with one or more C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, phenyl or substituted phenyl groups, or a salt thereof; and a derivative of batimastat formed by methylation halogenation, acetylation, esterification and hydroxylation, to the retina.

14. (currently amended) A method for preventing retinal neovascularization in a mammal susceptible to developing retinal neovascularization, comprising topically administering to the eye a composition capable of delivering a therapeutically effective amount of a batimastat compound selected from the group consisting of: a compound of the formula



where R<sup>1</sup> represents thienyl, R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, phenyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>) alkyl, cycloalkyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl or cycloalkenyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl group, R<sup>3</sup> represents an amino acid side chain or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, benzyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy)benzyl or benzyloxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl) or benzyloxy benzyl group, R<sup>4</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl group, R<sup>5</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, n is an integer having the value 0, 1 or 2, and A represents a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> hydrocarbon chain, optionally substituted with one or more C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, phenyl or substituted phenyl groups, or a salt thereof; and a derivative of batimastat formed by methylation halogenation, acetylation, esterification and hydroxylation, to the retina.

15. (currently amended) A method of treating retinal neovascularization in a mammal in need of such treatment, comprising administering topically to the eye a composition comprising a batimastat compound selected from the group consisting of: a compound of the formula



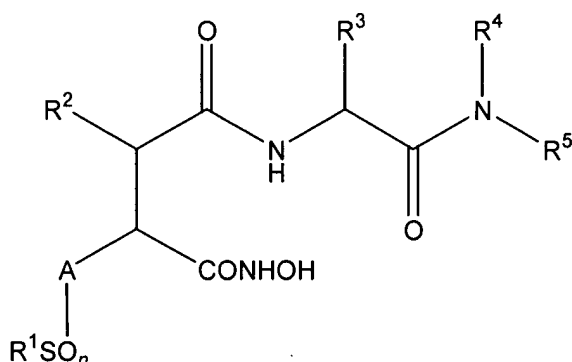
where  $R^1$  represents thienyl,  $R^2$  represents a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkenyl, phenyl( $C_1$ - $C_6$ ) alkyl, cycloalkyl( $C_1$ - $C_6$ )alkyl or cycloalkenyl( $C_1$ - $C_6$ )alkyl group,  $R^3$  represents an amino acid side chain or a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, benzyl, ( $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxy)benzyl or benzyloxy( $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl) or benzyloxy benzyl group,  $R^4$  represents a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl group,  $R^5$  represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group,  $n$  is an integer having the value 0, 1 or 2, and  $A$  represents a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  hydrocarbon chain, optionally substituted with one or more  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, phenyl or substituted phenyl groups, or a salt thereof; and a derivative of batimastat formed by methylation halogenation, acetylation, esterification and hydroxylation, and a polymeric suspension agent, wherein said composition is capable of delivering to the retina a therapeutically effective amount of the said batimastat compound.

16. (currently amended) The method of 15, wherein the said mammal is a human.
17. (currently amended) The method of 15, wherein the said batimastat compound is batimastat.
18. (currently amended) The method of 15, wherein the said batimastat compound is present at a concentration of about 0.01 to about 3 percent by weight.
19. (currently amended) The method of 15, wherein the said batimastat compound is present at a concentration of about 0.05 to about 0.5 percent by weight.
20. (currently amended) The method of 15, wherein the said polymeric suspension agent comprises a polymer.

21. (currently amended) The method of 15, wherein ~~the~~ said polymeric suspension agent comprises polycarbophil.

22. (currently amended) The method of 21, wherein ~~the~~ said polycarbophil is present at a concentration of about 0.5 to about 1.5 percent by weight.

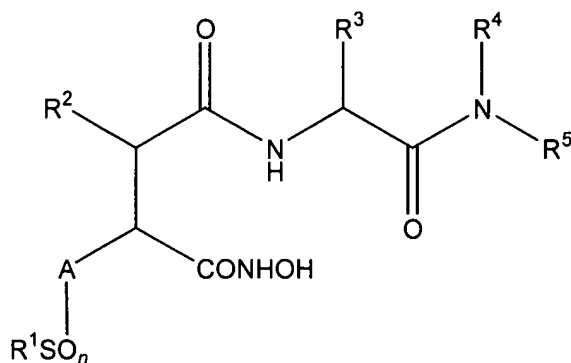
23. (currently amended) A method for preventing retinal neovascularization in a mammal susceptible to developing retinal neovascularization, comprising administering topically to the eye a composition comprising a batimastat compound selected from the group consisting of: a compound of the formula



where R<sup>1</sup> represents thienyl, R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, phenyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>) alkyl, cycloalkyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl or cycloalkenyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl group, R<sup>3</sup> represents an amino acid side chain or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, benzyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy)benzyl or benzyloxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl) or benzyloxy benzyl group, R<sup>4</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl group, R<sup>5</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, n is an integer having the value 0, 1 or 2, and A represents a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> hydrocarbon chain, optionally substituted with one or more C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, phenyl or substituted phenyl groups, or a salt thereof; and a derivative of batimastat formed by methylation halogenation, acetylation, esterification and hydroxylation, and a polymeric suspension agent, wherein said composition is capable of delivering to the retina a therapeutically effective amount of ~~the~~ said batimastat compound.

24. (currently amended) The method of 23, wherein ~~the~~ said mammal is a human.

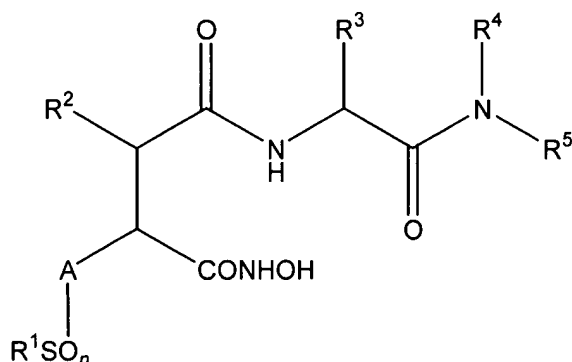
25. (currently amended) The method of 23, wherein ~~the~~ said batimastat compound is batimastat.
26. (currently amended) The method of 23, wherein ~~the~~ said batimastat compound is present at a concentration of about 0.01 to about 3 percent by weight.
27. (currently amended) The method of 23, wherein ~~the~~ said batimastat compound is present at a concentration of about 0.05 to about 0.5 percent by weight.
28. (currently amended) The method of 23, wherein ~~the~~ said polymeric suspension agent comprises a polymer.
29. (currently amended) The method of 23, wherein ~~the~~ said polymeric suspension agent comprises polycarbophil.
30. (currently amended) The method of 29, wherein ~~the~~ said polycarbophil is present at a concentration of about 0.5 to about 1.5 percent by weight.
31. (currently amended) A method for treating retinal neovascularization in a mammal in need of such treatment, comprising administering topically to the eye a composition comprising a batimastat compound selected from the group consisting of: a compound of the formula



where R<sup>1</sup> represents thienyl, R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, phenyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>) alkyl, cycloalkyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl or cycloalkenyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl group, R<sup>3</sup> represents an amino acid side chain or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, benzyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy)benzyl or benzyloxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl) or benzyloxy benzyl group, R<sup>4</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl group, R<sup>5</sup> represents

a hydrogen atom or a methyl group,  $n$  is an integer having the value 0, 1 or 2, and  $A$  represents a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  hydrocarbon chain, optionally substituted with one or more  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, phenyl or substituted phenyl groups, or a salt thereof; and a derivative of batimastat formed by methylation halogenation, acetylation, esterification and hydroxylation, and delivering to the retina a therapeutically effective amount of the said batimastat compound.

32. (currently amended) A method for preventing retinal neovascularization in a mammal susceptible to developing retinal neovascularization, comprising administering topically to the eye a composition comprising a batimastat compound selected from the group consisting of: a compound of the formula

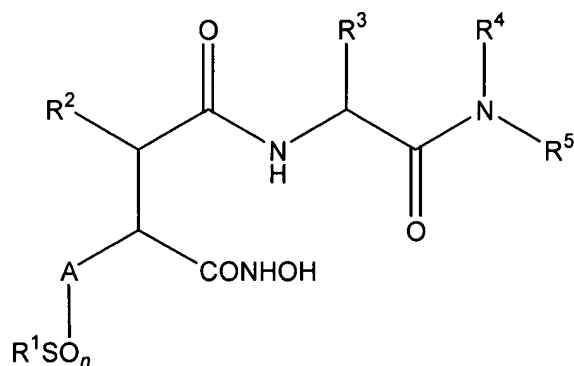


where  $R^1$  represents thienyl,  $R^2$  represents a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkenyl, phenyl( $C_1$ - $C_6$ ) alkyl, cycloalkyl( $C_1$ - $C_6$ )alkyl or cycloalkenyl( $C_1$ - $C_6$ )alkyl group,  $R^3$  represents an amino acid side chain or a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, benzyl, ( $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxy)benzyl or benzyloxy( $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl) or benzyloxy benzyl group,  $R^4$  represents a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl group,  $R^5$  represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group,  $n$  is an integer having the value 0, 1 or 2, and  $A$  represents a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  hydrocarbon chain, optionally substituted with one or more  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, phenyl or substituted phenyl groups, or a salt thereof; and a derivative of batimastat formed by methylation halogenation, acetylation, esterification and hydroxylation, and delivering to the retina a therapeutically effective amount of the said batimastat compound.

33. (currently amended) A method for treating retinal neovascularization in a mammal in need of such treatment, comprising topically administering to the eye a composition capable of



delivering a therapeutically effective amount of a batimastat compound selected from the group consisting of: a compound of the formula



where  $R^1$  represents thienyl,  $R^2$  represents a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkenyl, phenyl( $C_1$ - $C_6$ ) alkyl, cycloalkyl( $C_1$ - $C_6$ )alkyl or cycloalkenyl( $C_1$ - $C_6$ )alkyl group,  $R^3$  represents an amino acid side chain or a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, benzyl, ( $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxy)benzyl or benzyloxy( $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl) or benzyloxy benzyl group,  $R^4$  represents a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl group,  $R^5$  represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group,  $n$  is an integer having the value 0, 1 or 2, and  $A$  represents a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  hydrocarbon chain, optionally substituted with one or more  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, phenyl or substituted phenyl groups, or a salt thereof; and a derivative of batimastat formed by methylation halogenation, acetylation, esterification and hydroxylation, to the retina, wherein the composition comprises a carboxyl-vinyl polymeric suspension agent and about 0.01 to about 3 percent, by weight, of ~~the~~ said batimastat compound.

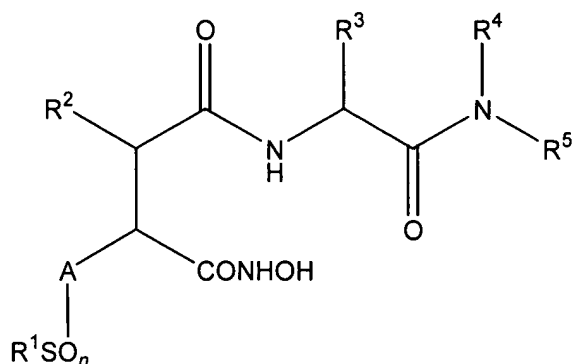
34. (currently amended) The method of 33, wherein ~~the~~ said mammal is a human.

35. (currently amended) The method of 33, wherein ~~the~~ said batimastat compound is batimastat.

36. (currently amended) The method of 33, wherein ~~the~~ said batimastat compound is present at a concentration of about 0.05 to about 0.5 percent by weight.

37. (currently amended) The method of 33, wherein ~~the~~ said batimastat compound is present at a concentration of about 0.1 to about 0.3 percent by weight.

38. (currently amended) A method for preventing retinal neovascularization in a mammal susceptible to developing retinal neovascularization, comprising topically administering to the eye a composition capable of delivering a therapeutically effective amount of a batimastat compound selected from the group consisting of: a compound of the formula



where R<sup>1</sup> represents thienyl, R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, phenyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>) alkyl, cycloalkyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl or cycloalkenyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl group, R<sup>3</sup> represents an amino acid side chain or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, benzyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy)benzyl or benzyloxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl) or benzyloxy benzyl group, R<sup>4</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl group, R<sup>5</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, n is an integer having the value 0, 1 or 2, and A represents a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> hydrocarbon chain, optionally substituted with one or more C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, phenyl or substituted phenyl groups, or a salt thereof; and a derivative of batimastat formed by methylation halogenation, acetylation, esterification and hydroxylation, to the retina, wherein the composition comprises a carboxyl-vinyl polymeric suspension agent and about 0.01 to about 3 percent, by weight, of the said batimastat compound.

39. (currently amended) The method of 38, wherein ~~the~~ said mammal is a human.

40. (currently amended) The method of 38, wherein ~~the~~ said batimastat compound is batimastat.

41. (currently amended) The method of 38, wherein ~~the~~ said batimastat compound is present at a concentration of about 0.05 to about 0.5 percent by weight.

42. (currently amended) The method of 38, wherein ~~the~~ said batimastat compound is present at a concentration of about 0.1 to about 0.3 percent by weight.

43. - 66. (cancelled)